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Security Council

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Letter dated 25 March 2011 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I am forwarding to you a letter dated 17 March 2011 from the Chairman of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict established by the Security Council in resolution 1612 (2005), based on the Working Group's conclusions adopted on 25 February 2011 (S/AC.51/2011/1) (see annex).

(*Signed*) Li Baodong
President of the Security Council

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Annex to the letter dated 25 March 2011 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

Letter dated 17 March 2011 from the Chairman of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict addressed to the Secretary-General

On 8 September 2010, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict examined the fourth report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2010/369). At its 29th meeting, on 25 February 2011, the Working Group adopted its conclusions on children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/AC.51/2011/1).

In follow-up to the recommendations of the Working Group, approved by the Security Council, and subject to and consistent with applicable international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009), I am entrusted, in my capacity as the Chairman of the Working Group, to recognize the critical role that the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the United Nations have played in the protection of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I am also entrusted to recall that, in line with the conditionality policy described in Security Council resolution 1906 (2009), logistical and technical support of MONUSCO to the Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo (FARDC) in all FARDC-led military operations against foreign and Congolese armed groups may be provided only if the operations are conducted in compliance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law.

The Working Group stresses the need for MONUSCO, through its Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator function, to redouble its efforts for long-term reintegration support.

Lastly, the Working Group requests you to ensure that action plans with various parties are implemented without further delay, and that the Council should be apprised immediately in the event that further difficulties arise.

(*Signed*) Peter **Wittig**
Chairman of the Security Council Working Group
on Children and Armed Conflict